

The Gallatin Treatment Court is only seven months old. And while its first participants have yet to graduate, based on my experience I believe most will succeed.

Roger Curtiss, who works with the Drug Court and heads the non-profit Alcohol and Drug Services program of Gallatin County, told me how he overcame his own drug addiction problems after being placed in a similar program.

I also learned what a dedicated and talented staff Roger has supporting him in his efforts to reduce the scourge of drugs.

I remain committed to fighting illegal drug use in Montana. While I believe that treatment courts such as Gallatin County's will play an increasing role in the fight against drugs, other steps must be taken.

In January I invited drug czar Barry McCaffrey to Montana for a conference. He spoke to dozens of Montanans about the challenge posed by methamphetamine and other drugs.

One experience sticks out in particular. At the town hall meeting we had a man named Wayne approach the microphone to address the group. He fidgeted as he told his story about being addicted to meth for nearly 20 years. He said, "People don't understand the affect of this drug. It tears the brains up. It rips the family apart. It has a hold that never lets go."

Mr. President, Wayne is not alone. Across Montana and rural America, meth and other drugs are tearing families—and communities—apart.

In January the DEA reported that eighth graders in rural America are 83 percent more likely to use crack cocaine than their urban counterparts. And they are 104 percent more likely to use meth.

The bottom line is that drugs destroy lives and communities.

The solution to the ongoing fight against drugs will be found only through constant innovation of the type demonstrated by Gallatin County's Treatment Court and similar programs across the nation.

To that end I have introduced legislation to make Montana part of the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

The bill would allow Montana to embark on an intensive, statewide media campaign and hire additional personnel for methamphetamine prosecution.

And because WHAT you know depends so much on WHO you know, the measure would establish a state-wide criminal intelligence network, allowing law-enforcement officials in all 56 counties to share information on criminal activity.

Mr. President, if I learned one thing from my meetings with the General McCaffrey and last Friday's visit to the treatment court, it is that there are many committed individuals fighting the drug problem.

The trick is to get them all together working to the same end: treatment,

prevention and law enforcement must all coordinate their efforts to fight the scourge of drugs.

We in Congress must do the same. At the end of last session the Senate passed legislation to fight meth, by beefing up law enforcement and treatment resources throughout the nation.

Both S. 486—sponsored by Senator ASHCROFT—and an amendment to the Bankruptcy Bill—sponsored by Senator HATCH—passed the Senate.

Unfortunately, both bills have languished in the House of Representatives. Neither has been acted upon, and the legislative days for the 106th Congress are numbered. I urge my colleagues in the House to act now to strengthen resources in the fight against illegal drugs, meth in particular.

Finally, I want to again recognize the efforts of the Bozeman Drug Court and thank them for allowing me to witness their innovative and inspiring work first-hand.

Drug Court is an alternative, but it's not easy. For many it is just as difficult as serving time.

In fact, I witnessed one individual who, after continually breaking the rules, was kicked out of drug court. Now he faces five years of jail time.

But with our jails bursting at the seams and the drug problem mushrooming in rural areas, I believe the Drug Court is an effective tool in fighting the drug problem we face.

Thank you, Mr. President.●

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WLNS-TV IN LANSING, MICHIGAN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize WLNS-TV in Lansing, Michigan, a station which will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on May 18, 2000. For fifty years, Channel 6 has provided Lansing residents with a wonderful mix of local and national news, community events and information, and an assortment of entertaining and insightful programming.

On May 1, 1950, WJIM-TV, Channel 6, signed on the air in Lansing, Michigan. The station was founded by Mr. Harold Gross, and for the next forty-four years he owned WJIM-TV. In 1984, Bakke Communications bought WJIM-TV, and changed the call letters to WLNS-TV. In 1986, the station's current owners, Young Broadcasting of Lansing, Inc., purchased WLNS-TV.

Serving the Lansing community has always been, and remains, the first and foremost priority of WLNS-TV. Channel 6 covers 24 hours of local news per week. It broadcasts Town Hall meetings on important community issues; political debates; major high school and college sporting events; severe weather and school closing information; and regular announcements highlighting important activities for hundreds of non-profit organizations in the community.

As a C.B.S. affiliate, WLNS-TV is able to keep Lansing residents abreast

of local as well as national and global events. In addition, Channel 6 offers C.B.S. entertainment programs and national sporting events. For instance, when the Michigan State University Men's Basketball Team won the N.C.A.A. Championship this past season, Lansing viewers turned to WLNS-TV not only to watch the games, but also to get local updates on their favorite team and its players.

Mr. President, Channel 6 has been home to many prominent Lansing personalities over the years, including Martha Dixon, hostess of the cooking show "The Copper Kettle"; Len Stuttmann, host of "The Many Worlds of Len Stuttmann"; Bill Dansby, news anchor and news director in the 1960's; Howard Lancour, host of the children's show "Alley Cat and the Mayor," and a news anchor in the 1970's; and Jane Aldrich and Sheri Jones, current news anchors who have 25 years of combined tenure at WLNS-TV.

Mr. President, I applaud the many people whose efforts over the years have made this birthday possible. I think it is safe to say that the long term success of WLNS-TV is representative of how much Channel 6, and its many employees, mean to the Lansing community. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I would like to wish WLNS-TV in Lansing, Michigan, a happy 50th Anniversary.●

TRIBUTE TO MARVIN STONE

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President. U.S. News and World Report, in speaking of the death of Marvin Stone, spoke of one man's "superior contribution".

Marvin Stone contributed more than should be expected of someone who had had a dozen life times and far more than anyone could have expected in a span of seventy-six years.

Marvin Stone, born in Burlington, VT, served in the Pacific in World War II and then went on to become one of the most respected journalists in America.

My wife, Marcelle, and I have been privileged to know Marvin and his wonderful wife, Terry. I think with fondness not only of times together with them, Marvin's sister, Marilyn Greenfield, and the many friends in Burlington, but also evenings with those far reaching conversations at their home in the Washington area.

Marvin took the time to call me when I was a brand new Senator, even though he probably was at first curious about the oddity of a Democrat from Vermont. We became close friends and throughout two decades I called upon him for advice and insight. I knew the advice would come, never tinged with partisanship but underlined with a great sense of history and his overwhelming integrity.

I can only imagine the void this leaves in the life of Terry, his wife of fifty years, of Jamie and Stacey and Torren and all his family. He also leaves a great void in our country.